

## PROCEEDINGS OF SECTION A.

### PHYSICAL, ASTRONOMICAL, AND MECHANICAL SCIENCE, INCLUDING ENGINEERING.

At the ordinary meeting of the Royal Society, held June 10th, 1879, Mr. R. L. J. Ellery proposed that Section A should be again formed.

The names of about forty members were obtained who were desirous of becoming members of the Section, and now, after a lapse of more than four years, the Section is again doing active work.

Five meetings have been held, the average attendance being very good.

The first meeting was held on July 3rd, 1879, when the Chairman (Mr. W. C. Kernot) and Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. S. Patching) were elected. At this meeting Mr. Ellery exhibited a new contrivance invented by Mr. Grubb for obtaining uniform rotation with the use of the ordinary vibrating pendulum. Mr. A. Sutherland read a paper on "The Application of Mathematics to Political Economy."

At the meeting held July 30th Mr. R. E. Joseph exhibited a Hughes's induction balance. Mr. J. E. Edwards exhibited a new and improved form of telephone.

At the meeting held August 27th Mr. Kernot read some notes, and also exhibited some of Aitkin's experiments, on chains in rapid motion.

At the meeting held on September 24th Mr. Pirani exhibited the phenomenon of sound produced by electricity when a thin tense iron wire formed part of an interrupting electrical circuit. Messrs. M'Lean and Kernot each exhibited small models of turbines of original design, from each of which very good results were obtained; Mr. M'Lean's being a vortex wheel and Mr. Kernot's a Barker's mill.

At the meeting held on October 29th Mr. Pirani read a paper on "Methods of Teaching the Science of Electricity," suggesting some improvements in many of the definitions. The Secretary exhibited a new form of galvanometer.

It has been suggested that no recess shall exist with regard to the meetings of the Section, as observed with ordinary meetings of the Society; and as the laws do not provide for such recess, it is deemed expedient to hold meetings without interruption on the last Wednesday in every month, as decided at the first meeting of the Section.

W. C. KERNOT, *Chairman.*

H. S. PATCHING, *Hon. Secretary.*